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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,  
Hongkong, 31st August, 1888.

## The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1888.

## TELEGRAM.

## MORE COERCION IN IRELAND.

LONDON, September 27th.

John Redmond has been sentenced to five weeks imprisonment.

## THE EMPEROR'S DIARY.

The German Government has prohibited the further issue of the Emperor Frederick's diary.

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

MESSRS. Carlowitz & Co. inform us that the steamship *Stura*, of the Navigazione Generale Italiana, left Singapore yesterday for this port.

THE Rev. F. Hartmann, Pastor of the German Bethesda Chapel, requests us to state that owing to repairs going on in the building, the usual Sunday Service will not take place to-morrow.

AN Emergency meeting of Perseverance Lodge, No. 1165, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, this evening, at 8.30 for 9 o'clock precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

"Yes," said Mrs. Fitzboode, who had been married 27 years, "if I were a young girl again I'd never get married. I wouldn't look at the men, wouldn't touch 'em, and I'd bring up my daughters to the same way of thinking."

"I THINK an egg would make that coffee settle, Mrs. Scudgers," said the impetuous boarder, heedlessly. "If the recipe is a sure one, pray let me offer you an egg, Mr. Sleap," responded the landlady, severely; and then the conversation languished.

TO-MORROW morning between 9 and 10.30 o'clock the steam-launch carrying the Bethel flag will call alongside any vessel hoisting code pennant C, to convey men ashore to 11 a.m. service at St. Peter's Seamen's Church, returning about 12.30.

BALD-HEADED MAN (who inclines to be facetious): "I'm getting to be pretty bald. Suppose you'll have to cut my hair for half-price hereafter, eh?" Tonsorial Artist (who is equal to the emergency): "Oh, no, sir. We always charge double when we have to hunt for the hair."

AN American lady writes from Marseilles that before leaving Rome she had an audience with the Pope, who, she writes, "as I knelt before him, smoothed my hair and face, held my hands, and talked to me in a low, sweet voice." As she arose to go he again smoothed her rony cheek, and gave her a beautiful silver medal to wear for his sake. "He is a dear old man," she adds, "but very feeble."

It is related that the Queen of Roumania recently addressed a letter to Alphonse Daudet, in which she complained of the exuberance of her fancy, which made it impossible for her to cling to reality, and made fairy tales of her fiction. "Carmen Sylva" turns, therefore, to Daudet for advice. At the same time she ventures to propose to the French author a literary partnership for the production of a novel. Daudet is said to have accepted the offer with alacrity, and will, before long, repair to the Queen's beautiful castle of Sinaia.

THE German steamer *Tetartus*, Capt. T. Petersen, which arrived to-day from Saigon reports that during the voyage as far as Hainan fine weather was experienced, with light westerly wind. From Hainan to port the vessel encountered a heavy storm from the north-west, with low barometer and heavy sea from the north-east. *Cela va sans dire* that the *Tetartus* has interested the zone of the typhoon which skirted this island yesterday on its way west. The Japanese steamship *Mitsa Maru* reports that she left Kutchinetsu on the 24th inst. Had heavy north-east gale and high sea gradually increasing since the 25th. The Government Astronomer sent us the following weather report this afternoon:—"At 4.15 p.m. yesterday the following notice was issued: 'Typhoon S. of Hongkong' and directions were given to, hoist the South Cone. Last night it blew a fresh E.N.E. gale, occasionally exceeding a strong gale in the squalls. The barometer continues rising, but the gale is scarcely moderating. The typhoon is moving Westward."

It is found by calculation that at 328 yards a man has the appearance of one-third his height; at 437 yards, one-fourth; and at 546, one-fifth.

An attorney brought in an immense bill to a lady for some business he had done for her. The lady, to whom he had once paid his addresses, murmured at the charges. "Madam," replied the limb of the law, "I wanted to convince you that my profession is lucrative, and that I should not have been a bad match."

By kind permission of Colonel D. G. Anderson, the Regimental Band will play in the Public Gardens, to-morrow (Sunday), from 9 till 10 p.m. The following will be the programme:

March: "The Borderers" (W. J. Williams).  
Overture: "Mendelssohn's Wedding March" (F. Schumann).  
Valse: "Rhoda" (J. Strauss).  
Selection: "Maiden" (J. Strauss).  
Gavotte: "Sembrance" (J. Strauss).

PARIS and its suburbs has a population of 2,961,089, of whom 2,344,450 are resident in Paris itself. At the beginning of the century the total population of the Seine was only 631,585, so that it is now more than four times as large as it then was, having increased to 1,200,000 in 1840 and to 2,400,000 in 1876. It has, therefore, increased by about 600,000 in the last twelve years.

"I DON'T know whether I ought to help you or not," said the lady, dubiously; "you look like a drinking man." "I give you my word, ma'am," said the melancholy but intelligent tramp, "I was drew into bankruptcy by keepin' a temperance hotel. It didn't pay, but I went cheerfully to ruin, rather than sacrifice my principles. Thank ye, ma'am. Them's the finest-lookin' tarts and cookies I've had this summer."

Is it possible to sit down when there is nothing to sit upon? The question seems a trifle absurd. But a solution of the difficulty was discovered by the old troops of the African Legion. Whenever the soldiers made halt on marshy ground, they used to sit on each other's knees, and when sufficiently numerous they would arrange themselves in a ring, so that the last man of the row would sit on the knees of the foremost of the party.

DR. Portugaloff of Russia has discovered that drunkenness may be cured by subcutaneous injections of strychnine, in the proportion of 1 grain to 200 drops of water, 5 drops to be injected every twenty-four hours for eight or ten consecutive days. The patient will find, according to Dr. Portugaloff, that "the first attempt to resume drinking will produce such painful and nauseating sensations that he will turn away from the liquor in disgust."

FOR a couple of nights past the lamplighter who piles his trade along Wyndham Street, Pedder's Hill and Ice-house Lane has either lost his chronometer, or been afflicted with temporary blindness, for any one living in this district or passing along the streets alluded to, must have noticed the sepulchral darkness which enveloped the neighbourhood till about 7 p.m., when the first glimmer of gas-light was visible. We would call the attention of the Gas Company to this irregularity. Perhaps the typhoon is responsible for it!

YEARS ago a large warehouse was burnt to the ground in Dresden. It was winter, the wells were frozen, and it was terribly cold. There were plenty of spectators, but only few persons willing to render assistance. Among the crowd stood a corpulent gentleman enveloped in a thick fur coat, and looking on in apparent enjoyment of the scene. "Come here, sir, and help to carry water," exclaimed a voice from the ranks of the water-carriers. "I am Councillor M—," replied the man with the fur. "And I am the Duke of Courland," rejoined the water-carrier, and dashed a bucket of water over the councillor's head.

THE Shanghai *Mercury* publishes the following extract from a private letter dated Kihwa-fa, Sept. 28th:—"Owing to the long distance of our station inland, I guess this won't reach you before a fortnight or so. We all are well here. We have been very busy all this time building a house, which has given us no end of worry and trouble in this outlandish place, as you may well imagine. We would rather have rented or bought a good native house, than go to the expense and loss of time of building a house of our own, but could not get one either for love or money. We do not think it was ill-will on the part of the people; quite the reverse. We do not even think that the Mandarins had a finger in the pie, although we are not positively convinced on that head. But you are well aware with what holy hatred the *littoral* view us, and you are equally well aware what unwholesome but powerful influence they exercise over the common populace. We have had several baptisms lately, and now we are getting ready for our autumn trips; autumn is always the best part of the year for our work."WITH regard to the troubles at Pilam, Formosa, (says the *Sin Pao*) we have already related how the Governor had despatched General Li Pun-Kin with the force from T'ai-pei by steamer to the spot. The *Fel-tsch*, the man-of-war steamer which took General Li to Pilam, having now returned to Tamsui, we have gathered the following particulars:—"The force of several thousands of savages were dispersed by our big guns, but repented at Tachwang. Here it was joined by the savages of the neighbouring savage settlement called Jen Wang, who are of extreme ferocity. General Li was going to attack them on 31st August, and was confident of an easy victory. The savages were originally in league with Chinese colonists who had placed themselves in armed opposition to the collectors of the new land tax, and it was said that they had killed two Deputies, Messrs. Liu and Kao. The fact of the matter is that *Liu* was really killed; and Kao got away from the enemies by whom he was surrounded, and escaped north by circuitous routes, making his appearance before the Governor on 25th August and telling his story."

FROM Nagasaki we learn that a Russian Circus, which has no less than six lady performers, is expected to arrive there from Vladivostok some time next month.

NO serious accidents are reported in connection with last night's blow, owing to the general precautions taken. A Chinaman fell into the water as he was coming off his junk, but got out unhurt. A few sampans were broken up by the high tide about ten p.m. last evening, and the Praya was in many places swept with spray. The water rose about three feet higher than usual. To-day it has blown pretty hard, and the weather has certainly been threatening, but as we go to press it would appear, although the barometer has not gone up to any appreciable extent, that the worst has passed.

THE Macao *Independence*, in alluding to the latest election of the members of the dissolved Corporation, has the following interesting paragraph:—"It cannot be said that the Governor does not possess sufficient strength to prevent a reelection of the Chamber; but why should he resort to such means when the laws give him ample powers to demolish the pack-of-cards castle, by simply flapping an order on it? This is surely constitutional wisdom! If the Governor of a Portuguese Colony has powers to prevent an election, which is guaranteed by the laws of the realm, from being carried out, then we may be sure Portugal will deserve to possess colonies only when the pigs begin to fly."

BERLIN just at present is the paradise for men who wish to get married. A Berlin merchant lately advertised for a wife and received 277 answers. Of these eighty-seven were widows, varying in age from 25 to 52, forty-two of them had no children, and twenty-one possessed fortunes entirely under their own control. Four ladies who had been separated from their husbands also wrote to express a desire to try their luck at marriage; a second time—one of them for a third time. Of the remaining 186 only two gave their age as over 30; eighteen of them professed to be just turned 16. Seventy-one photographs were enclosed, and thirty-one of them are said to represent remarkably pretty girls.

SAVS the Shanghai *Courier* of Sept. 25th:—"Little news has been published in the local press regarding the present passage up the Yangtze by the new steamer *Kuling*, and the silence is to be regretted, as great interest is taken in the progress made to open the Upper Yangtze to steam navigation. She is the pioneer boat in the enterprise, and it is difficult to believe that full information respecting her movements would be detrimental to the interests of those who have put their money in her. A report was current a short time ago to the effect that she was not to attempt the trip up the rapids to Chungking, but had been chartered to run between Hankow and Ichang. We believe there is no truth in this report. Our latest news from up the river is to the effect that the accident to her machinery, which occurred just below Wuhu, has been repaired, and that she was proceeding on her journey, slowly but surely. The *Y-ling*, we hear, has been re-chartered to run between Hankow and Ichang for two years, and one of the conditions made, we understand, is that the *Kuling* does not run on the same route during the continuance of the charter. It would thus seem that, after all, the *Kuling* is really to make an attempt to reach Chungking, and we hope she will be successful."A VERY amusing incident occurred at the Police Court this afternoon in the case of the Dock Company against J. G. de Jesus, for larceny of paints, etc. When the case was called at noon, Mr. Wotton appeared for the prosecution and Mr. Webber for the defendant, but Jesus, who had been released on bail of \$400, was *non est*. "He had gone out for a walk," said his ingenious attorney, "and no doubt would turn up shortly." Mr. Wotton thereupon applied that the recognisances of the accused be estreated, to which request the magistrate had no option but to accede. Mr. Webber said he could not object, as his client ought certainly to have been present, but as there was probably a misunderstanding on his part as to the time the case was to be tried, he assumed that his Worship would make things straight if Jesus turned up on Wednesday next. His Worship (Mr. Pollock) indicated that he would fix matters up if the accused faced the music when called upon, but at present he had no alternative but to accede to Mr. Wotton's application. Before estreating the defendant's recognisances, however, he must, according to rule, have him called in the usual fashion. Mr. Webber suggested that the Portuguese interpreter should do the calling. Mr. Wotton objected, but did not clearly explain why. Mr. Webber said his friend's objection was paltry and frivolous, but it really did not matter a row of pins whether the calling was done by the magistrate himself or by the punkah coolie. His Worship, assuming a very severe aspect, thereupon instructed the usher of the Court to call upon Joao Gualberto Jesus *shrice*. "Yes, your Worship," said that ubiquitous individual, and ten seconds afterwards a stentorian voice rang through the air calling for Joao Gualberto Jesus *Christ*. We may just add that Mr. Jesus has taken his foot in his hand and likewise a toddling clerk for foreign lands. Hongkong and the Dock Company will know him no more. So mote it be!

## SUPREME COURT.

## IN CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

(Before the Hon. J. Russell, Acting Chief Justice.)

## THE ARSON CASE.

## PRISONERS FOUND GUILTY.

The sixth day's hearing of the case began to-day. Opening delayed half-an-hour by non-appearance of a Kowloon juror, detained by storm. Mr. Robinson, in summing up for the defence, renewed the evidence adduced by the prosecution. After contrasting the testimony of conflicting

witnesses he worked in several telling allusions to circus riders, Balam, Shakspeare, and hide-and-seek. Added together, he said, the estimated value of the stock, furniture, clothing, &amp;c., amounted to \$750 or \$850. Was it likely then that the fourth prisoner would pay the others to set fire to the shop for the sake of obtaining \$1000, at the risk of losing his stock, his connection, and his liberty? With regard to the allegation that he tried to bribe the father of the first witness to send him away, the truth was that he would not bribe the father—that he refused to pay blackmail to have the case stopped. The witnesses had committed gross perjury in their evidence there and at the Police Court, and he put it that far more probably they had conspired to ruin the prisoners than that the prisoners had agreed to set the premises on fire and risk all for the sake of a hundred dollars' profit.

His Lordship—That is your case?

Mr. Robinson—No.

His Lordship—Oh!

Mr. Robinson, in conclusion, submitted that the charge had been brought for the purposes of extortion by the boy who said he saw the fire.

Mr. Francis, in reply, agreed that the only practical question for the jury was whether the three prisoners set fire to the shop or not. If the jury believed, on the evidence put before them, that the fire was wilfully caused, the fourth defendant was equally involved. It was far more important, in such cases as that, that the investigator in this case the fourth prisoner—the person who profited by the fire, should be punished, rather than the instruments. Therefore the cases had been united in the only way possible by bringing a charge of conspiracy against the four, in order that the fourth prisoner could not escape, as he would have had a very good chance of doing if tried alone on another charge on evidence referring only to himself. The jury had only to find on the minor charge, that of defrauding the Insurance Company. No evidence could have been adduced, as he had said before, that the four defendants arranged what should be done, the evidence, if it could be believed, simply showed that they did certain things the tendency of which was to defraud the Company. The three men set fire to the shop—one of them saved a certain book—the master, to whose injury or in whose interest the thing was done, made a claim on the Company, and put forward the book in support, and was found the same evening endeavoring to induce the principal witness to leave his shop, and offering him money to enable him to do so. If they believed that, they would believe that the men conspired to cause the fire, and were induced to do so by the master for his own benefit.

It was not necessary for the prosecution to show that the goods in the shop were of less value than when the insurance was effected; it was equally a case of fraud if the Company was asked to pay the claim, though the absence of stock strengthened the evidence against the master. If it had been shown that the shop was well stocked, business flourishing, and money not wanting, that would be strong evidence in favor of the master not being in the conspiracy. But it had been shown that the stock had been diminished, that the business was falling off, that the master was in debt, and that there were many reasons why he should be anxious, even at some sacrifice to himself, to get some ready money—\$1000—from the Insurance Company, and therefore he was induced to conspire, or at any rate enter the conspiracy. He then dealt at length with the points raised by Mr. Robinson.

His Lordship briefly summed up, referring to the principal parts of the evidence. He said that if the testimony of the first witness had stood alone, it was so extraordinary that he doubted if it would have been convincing, but corroborated so strongly by other evidence he thought it deserving of credence.

After a retirement lasting twenty minutes the jury unanimously found the whole of the prisoners guilty.

Mr. Robinson asked that sentence might be stayed in the case of the fourth prisoner, on the ground that the indictment was bad in law. Tuesday was accordingly fixed for hearing the arguments in support.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by correspondents in this column.)

## BANKING IN CHINA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

Sir,—It is now generally proposed to establish a National Bank for China, of Issue and Deposit, and there is ample room for welcoming an institution of this nature, as an abundance of capital would be to a considerable extent kept free for use in local discounts and advances, in place of being locked up in speculative exchange operations.

To complete the whole system of Banking in China, only one thing is still required and that is a real Local Bank. The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, as it works at present, has only one more competitor amongst the European Banks represented in China, and so long as it competes for the Foreign Exchange business it will never be looked upon by the other Banks, or by anyone else, as a Bank of Deposit and Discount.

Such a Bank, however, is wanted, and if its existence would soon be appreciated. It would take a long time to enumerate the trouble and expense which the European Banks would avoid if such an institution came to their help; it would enable them to reduce their establishment; it would make it far easier for them to realize regularly a reasonable amount of profits; it would come to their help in providing resources for them on the spot, when suddenly drawn upon, without having recourse to the negotiation of their bills, sometimes on very unfavorable terms; it would also have the effect of throwing off the hands of European Banks the responsibility attached to the discount of native bankers' orders. This business would go entirely to the national Local Banks, a result which is certainly desirable, as it is only long experience and a special organization which can enable a European to conduct this business without operating completely in the dark.

Besides, the more China is thrown open to European trade and industry, the more the country will become inclined to progress, and the more the necessity of a real National Bank of this kind will be felt.

The opening of Railways, the working of Mines, in fact the entire organization of the country according to European ideas, will surely be accompanied by great wealth of money, and when the Imperial Government requires larger and further loans, the officials will soon find it necessary to have a sort of special agent in China upon which the foreign public can look with confidence, and which has to-day really become an absolute necessity, after the exposures lately made public with regard to the loans made through the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation for the Imperial Chinese Government.

But to occupy this position in the market, and work in harmony with the other financial Companies, it would be necessary for any

institution which would take these things in hand to give up competing for the foreign exchange business and remain simply a Bank of Deposit and Discount, taking in reality a position similar to the Presidency Banks of India.

The trade of China has of late years been peculiarly susceptible to panics arising from sudden drains of silver, either to the interior, for cash remittances or for export, owing to depressed rates of exchange with foreign countries. These recurring periods of stringency do much injury to trade and their effects are felt for long afterwards. Local enterprise is also much discouraged by the probability of advances being unexpectedly called in to afford the Exchange Banks the means of profiting by an abnormally high rate of exchange.

In consequence, when these funds are re-imported, difficulty is felt in obtaining employment for them. It is probable that room could be found for the employment of a considerable amount of Foreign capital; and an institution which could bring the cheap money of Europe to a country where the rate of interest, even on good security, is high, would find its profits in supplying the wants of China.

The industry, commercial aptitude, and good faith in money matters of the Chinese, offer guarantees both for the security and profitable nature of investments of foreign capital in this country.

Yours faithfully,

MONETARY.

Hongkong, 29th September, 1888.

## LOTTI LIKIN.

Our Shanghai morning contemporary translates the following minutes by the Viceroy of the Liang Kiang in reply to a petition from the Hsiau-kuan Likin office, referring to the attempt to levy *Lotti Likin* on certificated goods at Ju Kiao:—

4th September, 1888.

In all cases where foreign goods in accordance with treaty are conveyed under cover of a half-duty certificate, all that requires to be done on passing various stations and barriers *en route* is to produce the said certificate for examination and a further payment of duty cannot be levied. It is therefore incumbent on the Board appointed to levy the *Lotti Likin* in the Soochow circuit to wait until the goods, after arriving at their destination and giving up their pass, shall have been landed and warehoused before they call on the native receiver for payment.

This is most clearly set forth in a copy of the Regulations jointly submitted to me by the two Boards of Soochow and Shanghai, and how can it have escaped your notice?

According to the Regulations in force in Soochow and Shanghai all you have to do, seeing you are stationed at Hsiau-kuan, is to inspect all foreign goods for the Provincial Capital covered by a half-duty certificate as they pass your barrier. Even supposing there were no other barrier but your own for them to pass before arriving at their destination, all you could have to do would be to retain the pass and forward it to the Head Office; you yourselves cannot levy any duty.

Complaints have recently been received from two firms, Yu Shang and Yung Hsing, stating that their goods have been detained and I was requested to give instructions to the Central Office for their release; with this request I at the time complied.

In a word, if a certificate has not been delivered up for cancellation, foreign goods conveyed thereunder are under no circumstances whatever liable to duty.

The instructions issued by Chen, the Customs Tao-tai of Chinkiang, namely, that if on examination the goods correspond with the entries on the certificate they shall be allowed to pass, are quite correct. You, however, have not studied the regulations with any care, and now when consequently you have committed mistakes, you are not aware of having done so, but on the contrary characterize the action of Chen Tao-tai as irregular, a course of proceeding which is not at all in order.

I have to express a hope that for the future you will, in obedience with my instructions, see that the goods and the entries on the certificate correspond with each other, and, if so, allow them to pass at once. Should there be any further complaints of detention and delay I shall have to visit you with punishment.

Similar instructions are being issued to the head office in Nanking.

With reference to the case of levying *Lotti* duty on foreign goods in Nanking and district, I have to add that in reply to a petition presented by the Chaokuan Likin Office, I stated that a careful investigation would require to be made by the Central Office, and having learned their report and the views they take of the subject I would come to a decision.

## NOTES FROM CHINESE PAPERS.

Since the present Acting Maritime Sub-prefect at Amoy, Chang, took his seat some two months ago in the Yamen, there has been a wonderful decrease in the cases brought to the Yamen for decision. The reason is said to be the heavy squences levied by his clerks, who obtain from each party to a new case \$17, or \$34 in all. The Amoy people are very litigious, but now they no longer bring so many of their disputes before the Court, as they say they don't care to "lose a cow to win a cat."

It is now several years since the silver mines were opened at Jchou, but the first attempts at developing them proved abortive. Last year the U.S. Vice-Consul at Tientsin, Mr. Petibick, requested the Viceroy to devote \$15,000 to this purpose, and to employ an American mining engineer to proceed with the work already commenced, so that it might not be in vain. Great expectations were formed of these mines at that time, but they do not seem destined to be realized at present, as the yield of the precious metal has turned out to be very small, and the Superintendent, Taotai Chu, has returned to Tientsin.

Mr. Haas, Austro-Hungarian Consul, is about to leave Shanghai, where he has had a career of over 10 years, commencing as an Interpreter and rising successively to the ranks of Vice-Consul and Consul. He is an accomplished English and Chinese speaker and reader, and enjoys the reputation of being an intelligent and able Assessor at the Mixed Court. As he is returning to Europe on leave, the other day he visited the Mixed Court just about the conclusion of the morning's sitting, and said good-bye to Mr. Tai-ai, Mixed Court Magistrate, Captain McEuen, and others.

This summer the cholera has been very bad in North Formosa, at Tswatua, where foreigners purchase tea, the deaths having averaged several tens of persons per day within a radius of 5 or 6 li since 22nd August. On 3rd and 4th September about 400 people succumbed, and the nights to be seen were most painful. On 6th September the native tea merchants held a procession in honour of the *Astutary* God of the town to endeavour to avert the noxious influences. Old people say although they always have cholera in that district during the 5th and 7th moons, they never remember to have seen such a fatal year as this one. There is a hurried exodus to Amoy of native tea men going on.

## FORMOSA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

TAMSUI, 18th September.

Fighting is still going on very doggedly at Pilam. The telegraph steamer *Peechen* arrived here on the 15th from the East Coast, with about fifty sick and wounded "braves" in all states of most pitiful misery. Everything that could be done for the poor helpless fellows was done immediately. The *Peechen* steamed round to Kelung on the 16th to coal, and went to the Pescadores afterwards to repair the cable between there and Taiwan, which has been interrupted for several days for reasons unknown. As soon as that job is finished, she is expected to take ammunition and provisions to the troops at Pilam.

The number of foreigners in North Formosa is steadily increasing, especially in this place and at Tswatua. Not many years ago, there were no married people living here at all; now there are no less than six married couples, with twenty-five youngsters swarming around them. A "schoolmarm" will be wanted soon. One of the leading members of our community is engaged to an amiable young lady in Hongkong and it is rumoured that the happy event will pretty soon come off.

I am sorry to report that cholera is still prevalent amongst the natives, especially at Banka and Tswatua; there has also been a few cases at this place. It is said that about fifty per cent. prove fatal, but we all hope now that matters in this respect will soon ameliorate, cooler weather having set in. Happily, no foreigners have been attacked; but, unfortunately, many members of the foreign community have been suffering from fever, some of them rather more so than in former years. On the whole, our good Doctor has had very hard and trying times, and with a large number of sick and wounded soldiers suddenly thrust upon his professional skill in addition to his ordinary clientele.

Much indignation is felt here that the Governor, generally known as a clever and intelligent man, could permit himself to send his "braves" to the front without any medical assistance whatever, and without ambulances. Everybody is greatly astonished why the Governor did not secure the services of the three young medical gentlemen trained by Dr. Wykeham Myers of Takow (Formosa), whom Li Tung-chang has since attached to his Military College in Tientsin.—*Shanghai Mercury*.

## KOREA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Fusan, Sept. 19th.

I regret to report that our crop of rice and beans in the vicinity of Fusan must be considered lost. We have had no rain whatever for a considerable time. In other parts of the country the farmers are reported to be much better off. This is a hard case for our settlement, where rice and beans always used to form two staple articles of export.

The following Japanese men-of-war called here on the 14th inst.:—*Kaimon Kan*, *Naniwa Kan*, *Tsukusi Kan*, *Rusa Kan*, *Minochi Kan*, *Takahachi Kan* arrived on the 16th inst.; she is to join the flying squadron and to replace the *Fuso Kan* as flagship. While the fleet was here we enjoyed some splendid music, discoursed by the Admiral's excellent band, and on the whole, there was a jolly good time all round during their stay.The Japanese Ministers Ito and Saigo were on board the fleet, arriving from Nagasaki in the *Takahachi Kan*. The ship was in apple pie order, and their crews behaved exceedingly well while in port. The whole crowd left us on the 17th for Vladivostok 274 Gensan.Lately, some rice has had to be imported from Japan into the settlement, but we soon expect native cereals to drop in coastwise. *Shanghai Mercury*.

## SEOUL.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

16th September, 1888.

On the 5th instant, Colonel Chailif, Lord of Egyptian fame, formerly chief of staff to General in the Sudan, and now Secretary to the U.S. Legation here, left by the steamship *Higo Maru* for Fusan, wherefrom the Colonel intends to cross over to the Island of Quelpart for the purpose of exploration and collecting notes of travel. This island, which local tradition says, was visited by Yacoub Khan, in search of conquest, had once a settlement of Spanish or Portuguese traders, was the scene of the stranding of the *Sperber*, is now the seat of at least two branches of highly ornamental Korean industry, and is altogether a field which is sure to yield a rich return to an explorer of Colonel Chailif's calibre.

A Japanese squadron under the command of Admiral Ito arrived lately in Chemulpo. Admiral Ito visited Seoul as the guest of Mdm. and Minister Kondo, who, to celebrate the occasion, gave a most successful entertainment on the 8th when a very enjoyable evening was spent listening to the really excellent performances of the Japanese naval band.

On the tenth it appears that a deplorable encounter took place between Japanese sailors and Chinese in Chemulpo. A dispute arose, and from words it came to blows, a Chinaman being severely wounded and several hurt on both sides.

On the evening of the 11th in celebration of the nomenclature of the Czar of all the Russias the gates of the hospitable Russian Legation were thrown open by Mdm. and Minister Waecher. The grounds of the Legation were most charmingly decorated and illuminated with more than 1,000 lamps. Among the chief guests we noticed Ministers Dinmoro, Yuan and Rondo, Consuls Kien, Plancy, and Hashiguchi, Admiral Ito, Generals Chung, Han and Dye, Mr. Denny, Rev. Mr. Jones and many more. His Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Alexander, who is expected on a visit here, did not arrive in time to take part in this most brilliant entertainment.—*N. C. Daily News*.

## THE COMING MAN.

"The old order" says Tennyson, "changeling, giving place to new, as God fills Himself in many ways, lest one good custom should corrupt the world."

No wiser oracle than this was ever uttered. Man is naturally a conservative animal, indisposed to change, however obviously necessary a creature of foolish precedent, and, in the language of antiquity, a *laidator lampidis acti*—a praiser of bygone times. Individuals like nations cling to the "old order," and change only when spurred to action by some strong impulse from without. "Agitators" are a class of men who in all ages of the world have been most obnoxious to the powers that be, and yet what we call "progress" could not exist but for those who in their own time are almost invariably denounced as wicked innovators. Of the pioneers of progress, even in our own time, how diverse and chequered is the history. How few are there of whom it can be said that they have persevered to the end in well-doing. There was a time, not so long ago, when the names of Cobden and Bright were household words.



words wherever the English language was spoken; but this is no longer so. Cobden's memory is recalled only by the greedy, grasping middle class; and Bright has long since ceased to inspire any degree of respect outside the shop-keeper order to which he belongs. For a quarter of a century the "Tribune of the People" has been no tribune at all. No new or generous idea for that long period has found any lodgment in his mind. He has been, and is, a mere "extinct volcano," as useless for all practical purposes as if he had long since been numbered with the dead. We do not blame him for this incapacity to keep in the forefront of the battle of right with wrong. Early in life he came to the end of his teacher as a reformer, and it is the fault of his constituents, rather than his own, that he is still a figure-head in public life. As a Quaker, Bright had the great good fortune to receive what may be called a Radical education, which bore certain fruit; but all his instincts were profoundly Conservative, and a Conservative he is and will remain. His career as a reformer has been honourable, but highly disappointing. Outside the interests and aspirations of his class he has never been able to display any sympathies whatever. In a word, he is not a man of progress, except by the accident of education. If he had been born in the peerage, he would have stood by his order; as stiffly as Lord Salisbury or any other noble lord of the gang.

He is not merely now an extinct volcano, but an extinct volcano that blocks the way by pretending to be in a state of eruption. All the same, Mr. Bright is the oldest and most reputable of our Radical leaders, and we have no desire to treat him with disparagement. Had he had the good fortune to die twenty years ago, we might have gone the length of helping to build an altar to his memory. As it is, we always prefer to think of him as a man of the past, and as a man who has been remembered, "at his best."

Next, perhaps, in the order of promise among Radical leaders comes the name of Sir Charles Dilke. Dilke started well. He was educated by his grandfather in sound Republican principles, and at the outset of his political career there was no reason to doubt his sincerity. Like all reformers of great abilities, he incurred much obloquy, but the people rallied to his call, and had he been true to his cause, he would to-day have occupied a foremost, if not the foremost, place in the affections of the Democracy. But to himself Dilke was not true, nor to the cause which he espoused. A mad ambition seized him, and in order to get into the saddle of power, he made terms with "Society." He went into the Cabinet to "permeate" it with Radical principles, but instead of permeating it, he was permeated by it. He publicly renounced the "scatter-brained principles of his youth," and became a prominent figure in the slavish circle of royalty. The man is now down, and it is not well to speak harshly of the unfortunate. As a social outcast, he is not undeserving of pity. The Tower of Siloam, which has fallen, on him, might equally well have fallen on scores and scores of men whose reputation to-day is tarnished. But what we say is this:—He became a political apostate and traitor long before his social degradation, and it is as a lapsed Republican that we feel entitled to pillory him as the "frightful example."

After Dilke, Chamberlain. The two men were sworn companions in arms, and like Octavian and Antony, they proposed to divide the empire between them. But neither has been equal to the self-imposed task. Indeed, everything considered, of the two, Chamberlain has been the more conspicuous failure. He talked of the Republic in his not political youth, and now he is the darling of the Tories and of the "natural rights" and "ransom," and now he is the ministry of a Government whose very *raison d'être* is "privilege" and "property." How are the mighty fallen! Here we had a man of undoubted ability, who, next to Mr. Gladstone, was without a rival in the confidence and affections of the people. He was, so to speak, in the direct line of Apostolic succession, and nothing but flagrant infidelity to the cause which he professed to champion could have prevented him from ultimately assuming the reins of power. But he also has fallen from the prime—fallen like Luther, never to rise again. We were not his worshipers; we should say, "This man cultivated orchids and associated with duchesses, and so became a fool."

In what direction, then, are we to look for light and leading? The Grand Old Man is still with us, and, looking at his conduct from the comparative point of view, it is impossible to withhold words of approbation—nay, of admiration. As a statesman, he has unquestionably been guilty of many acts to which no democrat could accord even qualified approval. The Egyptian war in particular, not to go further back, will remain an ineffaceable blot on his escutcheon. But this his numerous admirers may claim for him—if his progress has been slow, it has been sure. He has never lapsed into the "rest and be thankful" mood, but has always gallantly undertaken fresh labours which might well appal the youngest and most vigorous of our statesmen and politicians. His magnanimity to opponents, markedly in the present Home Rule controversy, has been beyond all praise, and lifted him morally into an atmosphere where few British statesmen have ever drawn the breath of life. But as the scriptures have it, "The shadow of this world passeth away." He is consciously fighting his last battle for country and humanity. And he is fighting it skilfully and well. But in the course of nature he will be gathered to his fathers, and the place that knows him now will know him no more and for ever.

Who, then, is the Coming Man? Mr. Gladstone not obscurely has nominated Lord Rosebery as his successor. We have no hesitation, however, in pronouncing absolutely against his lordship's claims to be the mouthpiece of the democracy. He is a clever enough young man, but he has not a single interest or instinct in common with the "masses." He is a lord and a landowner, and like the rich young man in the gospel, he will assuredly, sooner or later, depart from us, it may be "sorrowfully," because of his "large possessions."

There is, in truth, then, before us, so far as appearances go, but one possible leader of the Liberal party—viz, Sir William Vernon Harcourt. And that this should be so is assuredly one of the many surprises of current politics. Like Mr. Gladstone, Harcourt has improved with age. As the autumnal shadows of life have lengthened, his popular sympathies have quickened, and we are compelled to admit that, after Mr. Gladstone, he is without a second, whether in Parliament or out of it, as a vindicator of traditional Liberal principles. His speeches in Warwickshire on Monday last were in every way admirable, and breathed of genuine disgust at the abominable conduct of the Tory Government in Ireland. A statesman requires not merely intellect, but heart, and it has not hitherto been supposed that Sir William possessed much of the latter qualification. But the proof of the pudding is in the eating, and it is unquestionable that Sir William has exhibited a fidelity towards Mr. Gladstone, and a generosity with respect to the Irish, which have been conspicuously lacking in more likely quarters. Sir William's star has steadily risen as others have declined; and if he goes on as he has been doing, casting off the slough of Whigery, told by old, the new Democracy will not trouble to recall his political antecedents. All that we can ask of any man or statesman is that he should go forwards in the path of rectitude; and this it is

pleasant to think two such veterans as Gladstone and Harcourt are steadily doing; setting an example to others of whom better things might have been expected.

Neither of these statesmen, it is true, comes within a measurable distance of the organic political changes and reforms which we regard as necessary and inevitable. But this is the day of small things, and the multitude are as yet content to walk in the old ways, under the guidance of leaders whose horizon of ideas is limited. All the same, the roads that lead to Rome are many; and if Sir William Harcourt is to turn out a democratic angel in disguise, we shall not begrudge quarrel with the shape or texture of his wings. —*Reynolds.*

### THE STARRY FIRMAMENT.

The total number of stars one can see, says Professor Holden in the *Century*, will depend very largely upon the clearness of the atmosphere and the keenness of the eye. There are in the whole celestial sphere about 6,000 stars visible to an ordinarily good eye. Of these, however, we can never see more than a fraction at any one time, because a half of the sphere is always below the horizon. If we could see a star in the horizon as easily as in the zenith a half of the whole number, or 3,000, would be visible on any clear night. But stars near the horizon are seen through so great a thickness of atmosphere as greatly to obscure their light, and only the brightest ones can there be seen. As a result of this obscuration, it is not likely that more than 2,000 stars can ever be taken in at a single view by any ordinary eye. About 2,000 stars are so near the North Pole that they never rise in our latitudes. Hence, out of 6,000 supposed to be visible, only 4,000 ever come within the range of our vision unless we make a journey toward the equator.

As telescopic power is increased, we still find stars of fainter and fainter light. But the number cannot go on increasing for ever in the same ratio as with the brighter magnitude, because, if it did, the whole sky would be a blaze of starlight. If telescopes with powers far exceeding our present ones were made, they would not doubt show new stars of the twentieth and twenty-first, etc., magnitudes. But it is highly probable that the number of such successive orders of stars would not increase in the same ratio as is observed in the eighth, ninth and tenth magnitudes, for example. The enormous labor of estimating the number of stars of such classes will long prevent the accumulation of statistics on this question; but this much is certain, that in special regions of the sky, which have been searching examined by various telescopes of successively increasing apertures, the number of new stars found is by no means in proportion to the increased instrumental power. If this is found to be true elsewhere, the conclusion may be that after all, the stellar system can be experimentally shown to be of finite extent and to contain only a finite number of stars. In the whole sky an eye of average power will see about 6,000 stars, as I have just said. With a telescope this number is greatly increased, and the most powerful of modern times will show more than 60,000,000 stars. Of this number, not one out of 100 has ever been catalogued at all. In all 314,926 stars from the first to the nine and one-half magnitudes are contained in the northern sky, or about 600,000 in both hemispheres. All of these can be seen with a three-inch object glass.

### AN UNREHEARSED EFFECT.

The needy actor, in common with some other needy people, finds himself occasionally compelled, when quitting his lodgings, to leave an affecting remembrance behind in the shape of an unpaid bill, or in vulgar parlance, he sometimes gets "broke to doing a bill." Some years ago the audience (somewhat scanty, but noisy) present at the theatre in a certain Northern manufacturing town were regaled one evening with a scene which was not set down in the bills. The piece was "The Merchant of Venice." The trial scene was in full play. Antonio was baring his manly bosom, Gratiano was cracking his choicest "whistles," the Duke of Venice was looking as severe as his wig would let him, and Shylock was whetting his trusty blade upon the boards. Suddenly a venerable dame started up from somewhere about the centre of the pit, and gesticulating frantically with a very full-blown umbrella exclaimed:—

"That's 'im! Yonder stands 'is blackguard as did me out of three-and-sixpence. I've followed 'im up all 'is way fra' Massingham, the brute! I was sure afore, but I'll swear to my best carvin' knife as he took away—and got out of 'is window, and left nobbut a paper collar behind. And there's another young 'un there—and there—the braven willins!"

The audience stared in amazement. The old man ceased from smoking, the maidens stopped giggling, and the youths forbore the cracking of nuts. For a moment or two silence prevailed; the dame, by this time quite out of breath, still wielded the umbrella. But the "Leading Gentleman" was equal to the occasion. Knife in hand, he advanced to the footlights, and spake: "My good woman, what's the row?"

"The Good Woman: 'Ah! 'is all very fine of ye to check it out, ye swindlin' thief, when there's three-and-sixpence owing to the poor widow for a bed as three of ye slept in—and my carvin' knife in yer wicked 'and, too! Where's my brass, ye villin? And that brute with 'is shirt out, and 'im a settin' up there!' (pointing, excitedly).

Shylock (bringing forward Antonio): "Signor Antonio, know'st thou yon bold dame?" Antonio: "Not a good Hebrew, I faith." Shylock (to Duke): "And you, most upright judge? (Aside) Slow the grins, ye loon." Duke: "Jew, I wot not of her." Shylock (to audience): "Ladies and gentlemen, this interruption has not been of my seeking, believe me. Ye see now to what insults, to what base calumnies, the poor player is occasionally exposed. You have heard the indignant repudiation of the charge by my two friends. For my own poor part, I never saw this lady in my life. But what should be done to the accuser? What would you, ladies and gentlemen, do to her?"

The speech was interrupted by loud shouts of "Put her out! Throttle 'er! wench! Show folks for ever!" etc., and the audience now thoroughly roused, demanded the instant expulsion of the persevering landlady, who was forthwith ejected. Order was restored, the play went on, and the poor woman proceeded to Massingham by the next train, considerably damaged as to her bonnet, her umbrella, and her peace of mind, with her stock of faith in mankind sadly diminished.

### To-day's Advertisements.

PERSEVERANCE LODGE OF HONGKONG, No. 1165.

AN EMERGENCY MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, THIS EVENING, the 29th instant, at 8.30 for 9 O'CLOCK precisely. Hongkong, 29th September, 1888. [948]

### To-day's Advertisements.

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS. FOR LONDON AND HAMBURG. THE Steamship

"CARDIGANSHIRE." Clarke, Commander, will be despatched for the above Ports, TO-DAY, the 29th inst. For Freight or Passage, apply to ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 29th September, 1888. [766]

STEAM TO STRAITS, COLOMBO AND BOMBAY. THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

"THIBET" will leave for the above places on MONDAY, the 1st October, at Noon, instead of as previously advertised. E. L. WOODIN, Superintendent. Hongkong, 29th September, 1888. [943]

FOR SHANGHAI. THE Steamship

"NINGPO." Captain P. Schulz, will be despatched for the above Port, on MONDAY, the 1st October, at 4 P.M. For Freight or Passage, apply to SIEMSEN & Co. Hongkong, 29th September, 1888. [973]

FOR MANILA, VIA AMOY. THE Spanish Steamer

"DON JUAN" will be despatched for the above on TUESDAY, the 2nd October, at 4 P.M. For Freight or Passage, apply to IRANZABO & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 29th September, 1888. [974]

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA, VIA AMOY. THE Company's Steamship

"ZAFIRO," Captain McCaslin, will be despatched for the above Ports, on TUESDAY, the 2nd October, at 4 P.M. For Freight or Passage, apply to RUSSELL & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 29th September, 1888. [975]

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONGKONG.

SUMMARY JURISDICTION. FOREIGN ATTACHMENT.

SUIT No. 793 of 1888. PLAINTIFF—WILLIAM POWELL. DEFENDANT—L. B. CONNOR.

NOTICE is hereby given that a Writ of Foreign Attachment, returnable on the Fifth day of October, 1888, against all the Property moveable and immovable of the above-named Defendant within the Colony of Hongkong has been issued in this Suit, pursuant to the Provisions of Section LXXVII. of "The Hongkong Code of Civil Procedure." Dated the 25th day of September, 1888.

J. FRANCIS WEBBER, Plaintiff's Solicitor, Stanley Street, Hongkong. [977]

NOTICE. JEY'S SANITARY COMPOUNDS COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE Undersigned have this day been appointed SOLE AGENTS for the sale of these PERFECT DISINFECTANTS, and are prepared to supply quantities to suit purchasers, at Wholesale Prices. Extra Special terms for Shipping and large Orders. W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co., Bank Buildings. Hongkong, 29th September, 1888. [976]

FOR SALE. AT WHOLESALE PRICES.

SACCONES' SHERRY, PORT, CLARETS, BURGUNDY, HOCKS, CHAMPAGNES, BRANDIES, WHISKIES. "EMPIRE" ALE AND STOUT. MACHINERY, GAS ENGINES, "EMPIRE" LUBRICATORS. SINGER'S SEWING MACHINES. COOKING STOVES, SCALES. PAINTS, OILS AND VARNISH. BICYCLES AND TRICYCLES. JUVENILE VELOCIPEDES, HORSES, AND TRIGLES. BICYCLE WHEELS FOR JINRICKSHAS. SODA WATER MACHINERY. JEY'S SANITARY COMPOUNDS. Apply to W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co., Bank Buildings. Hongkong, 29th September, 1888. [11]

NOTICE. ZETLAND LODGE, No. 525.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on WEDNESDAY NEXT, the 3rd October, at 8.30 for 9 P.M. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited. Hongkong, 28th September, 1888. [972]

Intimations. WANTED.

A CLERK for the HONGKONG HOTEL, a European preferred. Apply to C. M. ROBERTS, Manager. Hongkong, 28th September, 1888. [970]

WANTED TO PURCHASE. A GOOD Second-hand full-sized ENGLISH BILLIARD TABLE, with BALLS, CUES, etc., complete. Apply to M. P., c/o Hongkong Telegraph Office. Hongkong, 29th September, 1888. [975]

Intimations. NOTIFICATION.

THE Drill Season of the HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS 1888-9 will commence on the 1st proximo.

Surgeon CANTLIE will attend at Headquarters EVERY FRIDAY EVENING at 6 O'CLOCK when gentlemen desirous of joining can be enrolled, if found fit.

It will be greatly to the advantage of new members joining as early in the month as possible by doing so they can attend sufficient drills to enable them to pass inspection in marching and carbine exercises on or about the 30th October. This applies also to last year's recruits. It will be necessary to pay strict attention to these drills to pass the inspection. Dates of Drills, &c., will be issued by "Express" later on.

By Order, J. D. ANDERSON, Lieut., R.A., Adjutant, Hongkong Volunteers. Head-Quarters, Hongkong, 22nd September, 1888. [942]

CHINESE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT. 7 PER CENT. SILVER LOAN OF 1886. LOAN E. FOURTH HALF YEARLY DRAWING.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that in conformity with the Stipulation contained in the BONDS of the LOAN, the following Numbers of Bonds to be paid off at par at the Shanghai Office of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, and at other Offices of the Bank, at the current rates of Exchange for demand bills on Shanghai on the 30th day of September, 1888, when the interest thereon will cease to be payable, were this day Drawn at the Office of the said Corporation in Hongkong, in the presence of WILLIAM HENRY GASKELL, Acting Chief Accountant of the said Corporation, and of the undersigned Notary.

NUMBERS OF BONDS DRAWN.

17 BONDS, Nos.—

95 376 566 587

592 805 838 1048

1432 1601 1789 1810

1903 1916 2162 2534

3012

For 250 Shanghai Taels each = 4,250 Shanghai Taels.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

W. H. GASKELL, Acting Chief Accountant.

Countersigned, A. P. STOKES, Notary Public, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 20th August, 1888. [969]

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE is hereby given that the FIFTEENTH ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS of the SOCIETY will be held at its Head Office, Hongkong, on WEDNESDAY, the 10th October next, at Half-past Three O'clock, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, together with Statements of accounts for the year 1887 and for the half year ending 30th June, 1888. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Society will be CLOSED from the 1st to the 10th October, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board, N. J. EDE, Secretary. Hongkong, 23rd September, 1888. [971]

MACAO: WANTED to purchase, in a good situation in Macao, Small FAMILY RESIDENCE commanding sea-view. Price must be Moderate. Apply with full particulars, by letter only, to W. H., c/o Hongkong Telegraph Office. Hongkong, 25th September, 1888. [954]

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

CONTRIBUTING SHAREHOLDERS are requested to send in a Statement of Business Contributed during the half-year ended 30th June, 1888, on or before the 30th instant, on which date the Accounts will be CLOSED.

By Order of the Board of Directors, D. GILLIES, Secretary. Hongkong, 3rd September, 1888. [872]

ROSE & CO.

BEG to inform the Residents of Hongkong and Out Ports, as they have disposed of their Business to the HALL & HOLTZ CO-OPERATIVE COMPANY, and as they are leaving the colony at an early date, ALL ACCOUNTS owing to them are requested to be paid by the First of October next, and ALL CLAIMS against them to be sent in for collection at once.

ROSE & Co. Hongkong, 21st September, 1888. [939]

NOTICE. CRUICKSHANK & Co., Ltd.

AN INTERIM DIVIDEND at the rate of Six per cent. or Three Dollars per Share for the six months ending 31st August, will be paid at the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION on or after the 5th October. Shareholders are requested to apply at the Office of the Company for their Dividend Warrants. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from 30th inst. to 4th proximo, both days inclusive.

WM. CRUICKSHANK, General Manager. Hongkong, 27th September, 1888. [966]

FOR HIRE. THE Fast Steam Launch "ELK" is always kept under steam at Peider's Wharf and is at the service of the public for proceeding to and from Steamers, Picnic and Bathing Parties, etc.

For particulars, apply to CRUICKSHANK & Co., Ltd. Hongkong, 17th August, 1888. [801]

HONGKONG TIMBER YARD WANCHAI.

OREGON PINE SPARS and LUMBER Always on Hand. L. MALLORY, Proprietor. Hongkong, 24th June, 1888. [636]

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THE Drill Season of the HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS 1888-9 will commence on the 1st proximo.

Surgeon CANTLIE will attend at Headquarters EVERY FRIDAY EVENING at 6 O'CLOCK when gentlemen desirous of joining can be enrolled, if found fit.

It will be greatly to the advantage of new members joining as early in the month as possible by doing so they can attend sufficient drills to enable them to pass inspection in marching and carbine exercises on or about the 30th October. This applies also to last year's recruits. It will be necessary to pay strict attention to these drills to pass the inspection. Dates of Drills, &c., will be issued by "Express" later on.

By Order, J. D. ANDERSON, Lieut., R.A., Adjutant, Hongkong Volunteers. Head-Quarters, Hongkong, 22nd September, 1888. [942]

CHINESE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT. 7 PER CENT. SILVER LOAN OF 1886



